

Northeast Drought Outlook Forum

October 11, 2016

University of Massachusetts at Boston, 100 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125-3993
McCormack Hall, 3rd Floor, John W. Ryan Lounge

https://www.umb.edu/the_university/getting_here

LiveStream all day: <https://youtu.be/LJ0WPz1PsTA>

For use by remote speakers: <https://zoom.us/j/544944779>

AGENDA

8:30am Registration

8:45am Welcome, Objectives and Outcomes

University of Massachusetts Welcome-- Robyn Hannigan, Dean, School for the Environment

Overview and Desired Outcomes of the Forum - Ellen Mecray, NOAA Regional Climate Services Director, Eastern Region

9:00am Current Drought Conditions and Outlook for 2016

Panel Moderator: Ellen Mecray (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)

- Monitoring drought through time- Samantha Borisoff (Northeast Regional Climate Center) and Mary Stampone (NH State Climatologist)
- Overview of meteorological conditions- Ed Capone (NOAA/Northeast River Forecast Center)
- Current streamflow and groundwater conditions- Gardner Bent and Tom Mack (US Geological Survey/New England Water Science Center)
- Climate and Drought Outlook- Brad Rippey (US Department of Agriculture)

10:30am Drought Impacts and Responses

Panel moderator: Keith Robinson (US Geological Survey/New England Water Science Center)

- Drought impacts on agriculture including fire potential- David Hollinger (US Department of Agriculture/Northeast Climate Hub)
- Impacts on marine and freshwater fish- Sara Turner (Massachusetts Department of Marine Fisheries/Annisquam River Office)
- Water Supply: Quabbin Reservoir - Steve Estes-Smargiassi (Massachusetts Water Resources Authority)

- Municipal Water Supply - Kimberly Abraham (City of Worcester/Department of Public Works/Water Operations)
- 11:30am** U.S. Rep. Seth Moulton (MA), U.S. Rep. Frank Guinta (NH) and others offer remarks
- 12:00pm** **Lunch**
Drought Task Forces Panel: State Decisions across the Northeast
Panel Moderator: Hendricus Loftus, National Weather Service, Grey, Maine
- NY- Michael Holt (NY Department of Environmental Conservation) (Remotely)
 - MA- Vandana Rao (MA Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs)
 - CT- David LeVasseur (CT Office of Policy and Management)
 - RI- Kathleen Crawley (RI Water Resources Board)
 - NH- Brandon Kernen (NH Department of Environmental Services)
 - ME- Thomas Redstone (Maine Emergency Management Agency)
- 1:30pm** **Drought Early Warning Information in the Northeast**
Panel moderator: Chad McNutt (National Integrated Drought Information System)
- US Drought Monitor overview- monitor elements and impact tracking, Brad Rippey (US Department of Agriculture)
 - Regional and local resources- Samantha Borisoff (Northeast Regional Climate Center)
 - Decision Support for Drought- Nicole Belk and Alan Dunham (National Weather Service/Boston Weather Forecast Office)
 - Regional and local resources- Keith Robinson (US Geological Survey)
- 2:30pm** **Drought Assistance and Preparedness**
Panel moderator: Dave Hollinger (US Department of Agriculture)
- Department of Agriculture's Assistance for Producers- John Niedzielski (Farm Service Agency)
 - State Drought Resilience Programs- Christine Clark (Natural Resources Conservation Service)
 - Hazard Mitigation Plans and drought planning- Nan Johnson (Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I)
- 3:30pm** **Open Discussion - Information Needs for Drought Early Warning and Preparedness**
Moderators: Ellen Mecray and Samantha Borisoff (NOAA Regional Climate Services)
- 4:30pm** **Concluding Remarks, Adjourn**